Listing of the claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for the determination of water comprising determining the water content in a sample using the Karl Fischer oven technique with a water standard comprising ~~Use of~~ a mixture ~~consisting~~ of at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one stable water-free compound ~~as water standard for the determination of water~~.

2. **(Cancelled)**

3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Currently amended)** ~~Standard~~ A method for the determination of water in a sample ~~consisting of~~ comprising:

determining the water content of said sample with the Karl Fisher oven technique using a water standard comprising a mixture of at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one inorganic stable water-free compound where the ~~constituents~~ water-containing and water free compounds have particle sizes of less than 300 pm.

5. **(Currently amended)** ~~Standard~~ A method according to Claim 4, wherein said water standard has ~~having~~ a water content of between 0.005 and 10% by weight.

6. **(Currently amended)** ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of a water standard, comprising ~~the following steps~~:

a) ~~provision of~~ providing at least one stable water-containing compound and at least one inorganic stable water-free compound;

b) ~~reduction of~~ reducing the particle size of the ~~constituents mentioned~~ compounds in a) to less than 300 pm;

c) ~~calculation of~~ calculating the proportions of the stable water-containing compound(s) and of the stable water-free compound(s) in order that the water content desired for the standard arises in the mixture;

d) mixing ~~of~~ the ~~constituents~~ compounds obtained from step b) in accordance with the proportions calculated in step c),
where the sequence of steps b) and c) can be exchanged.

7. **(New)** A method according to claim 1, wherein said mixture is a free flowing powder.

8. **(New)** A method according to claim 5, wherein said water-containing compound is sodium tungstate dihydrate.

9. **(New)** A method according to claim 5, wherein said water-containing compound is sodium molybdate dihydrate.

10. **(New)** A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-free compound is potassium sulfate.

11. **(New)** A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-free compound is barium sulfate, titanium dioxide (rutile) or calcium phosphate.

12.**(New)** A method according to claim 1, wherein the water-free compound and the water-containing compound have melting points > 400°C.

13.(New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the determination of water is conducted at a temperature range between 140 and 300°C.

14. **(New)** A method according to claim 1, wherein said water-free compound is an inorganic compound.

15. **(New)** A method according to Claim 1, wherein said standard has a water content of between 0.005 and 10% by weight.

16. **(New)** A method according to claim 1, wherein said standard comprises a mixture of

potassium sulfate and sodium tungstate dihydrate.

17. **(New)** A method according to claim 4, wherein said water-containing and water-free compounds have particle sizes of less than 150 μm.

18. **(New)** A method according to claim 17, wherein said water-containing and water-free compounds have particle sizes of less than 50 μm.

19. **(New)** A method according to Claim 5,wherein said standard has a water content of between 0.1 and 10% by weight.